

State of Arizona

Janice K. Brewer Governor Office of the Governor 1700 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007

CONTACT: Ann Dockendorff

(602) 542-7029

adockendorff@az.gov

Main Phone: 602-542-4331

Facsimile: 602-542-7601

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 1, 2012

Governor Jan Brewer Announces Navajo County Superior Court Appointment

Phoenix – Governor Jan Brewer today announced the appointment of attorney Robert James Higgins to the Navajo County Superior Court.

"Robert touts a level of professional experience outside of law that is rare among judicial candidates," said Governor Jan Brewer. "In addition to a strong legal background, he was a teacher for many years and is a philanthropist in his community. He is well-rounded and well-equipped to serve the Court and the community."

A former deputy county attorney, Mr. Higgins has practiced civil and criminal law in Navajo County for 17 years. He has an extensive legal background, including experience in criminal law, transactional matters and civil litigation. Mr. Higgins also has a broad range of expertise in estate planning and contractual issues, child dependency cases, personal injury matters and forcible detainer actions.

Mr. Higgins was an English teacher at Brophy College Preparatory for seven years prior to attending law school. He has been active in education efforts in his community, as he founded St. Anthony School in 1997 and continues to serve as a Board member. Additionally, Mr. Higgins is a volunteer with the White Mountain Tuition Support Foundation, for which he currently serves as President. He also has volunteered with St. Francis Parish on the White Mountain Apache Reservation, and has worked on several pro bono cases for White Mountain Apaches. Mr. Higgins completed his undergraduate degree from Santa Clara University (1980), and received a Master's degree from Arizona State University (1988). He graduated from Santa Clara University Law School in 1994.

The Governor's appointment of Robert Higgins was made to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Navajo County Superior Court Judge Carolyn C. Holliday.

###